

REMARKS

Independent claims 1, 8-12, 16 and 17 have been amended herein. Claims 1, 4 and 6-17 are pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the Telephone Interview conducted on January 10, 2006. The independent claims have been amended to further distinguish the present invention over the cited reference. Support for the claim amendments can be found at FIGS. 7 and 9.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 4 AND 6-17 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER KAMINSKY (U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 2001/0047308)(previously cited):

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “accepting a purchase reservation from said purchaser’s terminal via the network, the purchase reservation specifying a future date among the dates indicated in said discount price transition table when the discount price corresponds to a desired purchase price of the purchaser; and setting a purchase reservation time of the purchase reservation when the selling price corresponding to one of the discount prices from the discount price transition table equals the desired purchase price”.

The Applicants respectfully submit that Kaminsky fails to disclose “the purchase reservation specifying a future date among the dates indicated in said discount price transition table when the discount price corresponds to a desired purchase price of the purchaser,” as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

Instead, FIG. 3 of Kaminsky discloses a display showing a retail price, a current price and an offer end date and price trend of a product. Further, at page 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that paragraph [0050] of Kaminsky discloses a user being able to see a real-time display of the quantity of particular products available and be able to assess the relative value of a product through the various price strategies. The user can then make decisions about purchases based on how quickly or at what price, an item is selling, for instance, choosing to purchase at current price rather than waiting for better prices under any other price scheme. Again, the display does not contain any information representing or relating to prices offered to a purchaser for a future time in a manner wherein the price continuously reduces by a percentage, after elapsing over a period of time.

The Applicants respectfully submit that even if the price information of Kaminsky can be put in table form, as asserted by the Examiner at page 4 of the Office Action, it would not be

obvious to modify the method of Kaminsky to include "the purchase reservation specifying a future date among the dates indicated in said discount price transition table when the discount price corresponds to a desired purchase price of the purchaser," as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

That is, in Kaminsky, the user is able to see the price trend of a product and to make decisions about purchases based upon the price trend. For example, if the current price is relatively low and the price trend indicates that the price is going up, then the purchaser may want to go ahead and purchase the product at the current price.

On the other hand, if the current price is relatively high, and the price trend indicates that the price is going down, the purchaser may want to wait until the price goes down. However, Kaminsky does not provide the advantage of allowing a purchaser to know what a price will be for a specified product on a specified future date, as in the present invention.

Further, in Kaminsky, the purchaser is not able to make a reservation for a future date to purchase the product.

Therefore, Kaminsky fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness over the present invention.

Claims 8-12 and 16-17 have been amended to recite similar features as those of claim 1. Therefore, although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences of various other rejected claims over the cited reference. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4 and 6-17 is respectfully requested.

II. CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore, defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

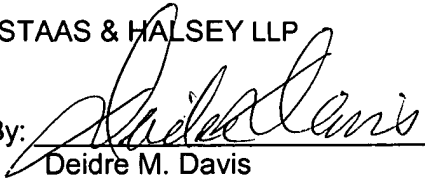
Respectfully submitted,

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